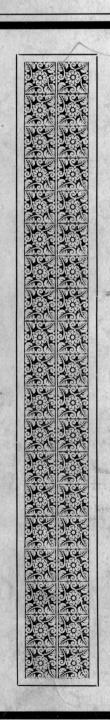
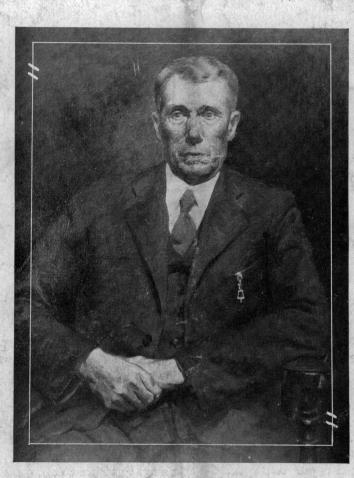
The AUBURN ALUMNUS





DR. JOHN J. WILMORE, Dean Auburn School of Engineering





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CHEVROLET

Endowment

L AUNCHING by Auburn Alumni of two movements to aid Auburn presages the beginning of a more vigorous support on the part of the Alumni body. One of these is a move of political import; the other is in the field of voluntary financial support.

Auburn Alumni recognize the seriousness inherent in the present policy of inadequate support of the State's educational system brought about by the failure of the present administration to provide sufficient educational revenues. The Alumni group has gone on record as favoring adequate revenues and, through Alumni President Bloch, has made known to the legislature and the Governor the desire of the Alumni in this respect.

Going further than asking State support, the Alumni authorized the beginning of an Alumni Endowment Fund which will in no way seek to supplement the recognized obligation of the State to support education, but will look toward a further subsidization of education at Auburn so that continued progress may be assured. Every Auburn man is urged to participate in this program. It can be done through the payment of Alumni dues or through special donation to the fund. Details of collection and administration of funds may be found in another part of this magazine.

Auburn's Engineers

The Alumnus takes pleasure in presenting in this issue a number of sketches of Auburn engineers. Dean Wilmore and his associates have placed Engineering among the foremost of Auburn's schools, both on and off the campus.

Auburn's engineers are distributed throughout the State and nation; many are in foreign countries. The selection here made is simply indicative of Auburn's contribution—it is not exhaustive. The work of many engineers has been recounted previously in these pages and others will follow. The presentation at this time is unique only in that it has given special attention to the achievements of a group of men, all of whom represent one of Auburn's schools.

In addition to graduating more than 2,500 engineers Auburn organized the Engineering Experiment Station in 1929. This work tends to make the engineering cycle complete from the acquisition to the application of engineering knowledge.

THE AUBURN ALUMNUS

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Maurice I. Bloch, Selma, President.

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1936 Football Schedule

Sept. 25—B'ham-Southern (Friday nigh	t) Montgomery
Oct. 3—Tulane	New Orleans
Oct. 10—Tennessee	Knoxville
Oct. 17—Univ. of Detroit	Detroit, Mich.
Oct. 24—Georgia	Columbus
Oct. 31—Santa Clara Univ.	San Francisco
Nov. 7—Georgia Tech	Atlanta
Nov. 14—L. S. U	Birmingham
Nov. 21—Loyola (South)	(Home-Coming) Auburn
Nov. 28—Florida	Montgomery

Re-elected Alumni President



Indicating their appreciation of the splendid leadership exhibited by Maurice I. Bloch of Selma as the 1935-36 president of the Auburn Alumni Association, the alumni in annual meeting at Auburn on May 25 re-elected Mr. Bloch by acclamation to continue his term of office for the coming year. This excellent photograph of Mr. Bloch and his charming wife was taken on Alumni Day by Prof. Charles R. Hixon, assistant engineering school dean and professor of mechanical engineering. Professor Hixon, in recent years, has added photography to his numerous hobbies, all of which he does with the high degree of skill that has made his engineering instruction at Auburn outstanding since 1908.—Editor.

THE AUBURN ALUMNUS

VOLUME XVII AUBURN, ALA. NUMBER 4

Auburn's School of Engineering

NGINEERING, ever since the founding of the institution, has been one of the leading divisions of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. The institution was organized as a Land Grant college in 1872 and was called the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama. courses of study were offered at the beginning, Agriculture, Civil and Mining Engineering, and Literature and Science. One degree of Civil Engineer was awarded at the end of the first session and the development of the work has been steady and substantial since that time. The degrees offered at the beginning were Bachelor of Engineering for the baccalaureate degree and Civil Engineer and Engineer of Mines for the graduate degrees.

Col. R. A. Hardway was the first head of the department which was known as the Department of Engineering and Drawing. He resigned in 1881 and Gen. James H. Lane was elected to the place. Under his directing hand the department grew rapidly in strength and popularity.

In 1884 the work in Mechanic Arts was organized as a separate department and Mr. George H. Bryant of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was placed at its head. Courses in wood work, both hand and machine, in blacksmithing and foundry and in machine work were offered. This is believed to be one of the earliest courses of manual training in the country, organized to give the students educational training as distinguished from training which was intended to teach a trade.

In 1886 new shop buildings were erected and equipped and an electric generator was installed for lighting the shops and other college buildings. In 1888 additional equipment had been secured, more instructors employed and a full three-year course in shop work was offered.

In 1891 the first course in Electrical Engineering established in the South was organized by Mr. A. F. McKissick of South Carolina, a graduate of Cornell University. The time was most opportune for the introduc-

BY DR. JOHN J. WILMORE, Dean School of Engineering

(Dr. Wilmore began his remarkable career at Auburn in engineering instruction and administration in 1888. This year is his forty-eighth of continuous service at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.—Editor.)

tion of such a course and it was popular from the beginning. Certain subjects in Mechanical Engineering were important for a well-balanced course in Electrical Engineering and this gave opportunity for the development of the department of Mechanic Arts into a department of Mechanical Engineering. This was done under the direction of Jno. J. Wilmore, acting professor, Professor Bryant, the director of the department having resigned. In the beginning the course was known as the course in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering.

In 1900, Professor A. F. McKissick resigned as head of the department of Electrical Engineering and Professor A. St. C. Dunstan of the University of Kansas, formerly of Auburn, was elected its head. Courses in Mining Engineering had been offered since the early days of the college. In June 1903, a full four-year undergraduate course in Geology and Mining Engineering was organized and Mr. G. N. Mitcham, a graduate of Auburn and a practicing engineer, was elected as its head. Three new buildings for engineering had been built as follows: the Chemical Annex in 1903, the Power House in 1905, and the east wing of Broun Hall in 1906. In 1905 the course in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering which had been established in 1891 was discontinued and separate courses in Electrical Engineering and in Mechanical Engineering were arranged.

In 1907 General James H. Lane, after twenty-six years of faithful and efficient service as head of the department of Civil Engineering and Drawing, retired as Professor Emeritus. During the time he had been head of the department, a large number of men had been graduated. Most

of them had gone into engineering work, and many had won eminent distinction in their profession. On the retirement of General Lane, Professor G. N. Mitcham, head of the department of Mining Engineering, was transferred to the department of Civil Engineering and Mr. Robert L. Brown of Colorado, a graduate of the Colorado School of Mines, was elected to fill the place thus vacated. General Lane died in 1907.

As early as 1879, students in civil engineering who were looking especially toward building construction, were permitted to substitute certain work in architectural drawing, roof design, and building materials for part of the railway engineering of the regular course. Early recognition was thus given to the need of training in subjects pertaining to architecture and the building trades. It was not until 1907, however, that this need was fully met by the organization here of the first full department of architecture in a southern college. Mr. N. C. Curtis of North Carolina, a graduate of Columbia University, was elected head of the department, and a full four-year course leading to the degree of bachelor of science in architecture was formed.

The department of mechanical drawing and machine design was established in 1907 with Professor M. Thos. Fullan at its head. During the same year the college of engineering and mines was organized and included the departments of civil, electrical, mechanical, and mining engineering, mechanical drawing, and machine design and architecture. Professor Jno. J. Wilmore, professor of mechanical engineering, was appointed dean.

During the years 1908 and 1909 the institute developed a power plant and began to furnish electric service to citizens of the town. It also developed a water supply for the college and town. In 1910 an appropriation made by the legislature was used in the erection of the William LeRoy Broun Engineering Hall, at that time the largest building on the campus.

In 1913 the generosity of an alum-(Continued on Page 20)

Among Auburn's Successful Engineers

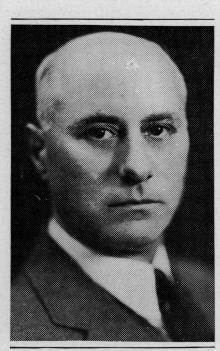
W. P. Holcombe

R. HOLCOMBE is a Mobilian Who came to Auburn as a graduate student after taking the B. S. degree at Centenary College in Jackson, La. At Auburn, in 1896, he took special work in mechanics and electricity. He did his work under General Lane, Prof. A. F. McKissick, Dr. Smith, and Dr. Wilmore—the latter now being dean of the engineering

He played football in 1896, tried to beat Capt. Reynolds ("Tick") Tichenor out of his job at quarter and landed at "sub" quarter. In 1897 he became quarterback and field captain of the football team. The team was disbanded before the end of the 1897 season on account of the death of Van Gammon of Atlanta who was killed in the Georgia-Virginia game of that year. He played shortstop on the 1897 baseball team and was its man-

After two years at Auburn he went with the Electric Lighting Co. of Mobile but left there after less than a year to go with the U.S. Engineer Corps as civilian employee at Fort Morgan on submarine mining and harbor defense in the Spanish American War.

In 1902 Mr. Holcombe returned to (Continued on Page 20)



W. P. HOLCOMBE

Roger B. McWhorter



R OGER B. McWHORTER, '09, assumed his duties with the Federal Power Commission in 1931. As Chief Engineer of the Commission it is his responsibility to see that it functions properly, which means that a multitude of activities must be continuously supervised.

The Federal Power Commission investigates power projects affecting navigable waters and public lands and reservations of the United States; makes detailed studies of applications filed with the Commission for preliminary permits and licenses; prepares reports on such applications, with recommendations; prepares and submits engineering testimony in litigation involving the Commission; performs all routine engineering work in connection with 567 licensed projects; and prepares many special engineering studies and reports.

Under Title II of the Public Utility Act of 1935 (Federal Power Act), the Commission will also, for the purpose of dividing the United States into regional districts as directed by Congress, conduct engineering studies and investigations with respect to power resources and requirements of the entire country, and of potential markets, economic trends, growth of population and power demands, and

(Continued on Page 20)

I. F. McDonnell

F. McDONNELL, Chief of the I. Bureau of Utilities, Alabama Public Service Commission, has been connected with the Commission as chief of the Technical Staff for 15

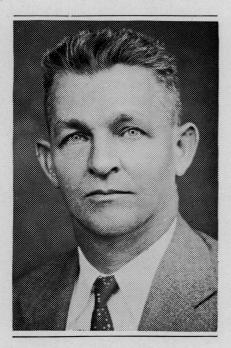
The Alabama Public Service Commission is required by law to supervise and regulate the rates and services of all privately owned utilities and transportation companies in Alabama. The Bureau of Utilities, headed by Mr. McDonnell, was created for the purpose of assisting the Commission in discharging its duties as prescribed by law in regulating electric light and power, telephone, gas, water, steam heat, and street railway utilities. This constitutes a large task as there are 124 utilities reporting to the Commission representing an investment of \$300,000,000 and collecting each year from approximately 400,-000 customers \$32,000,000. The work of making the rates and of regulating the services of these utilities is necessarily a task for a technical man and the personnel of the Bureau headed by Mr. McDonnell consists of 12 employees. The expense of the department is approximately \$30,000 per year. The records of the Commission show that the money expended by the

(Continued on Page 19)



I. F. McDonnell

R. F. A. Benson



F. A. BENSON, son of the late R. E. L. Benson, Mobile, is an Auburn man who has proven his engineering as well as his executive ability. Mr. Benson received his degree in mechanical engineering in 1914 and accepted a position as instructor in Technological High School, Atlanta, Ga. After a year of teaching he entered the United States Naval Academy where he took a special training course in Mechanics and Navigation. It was upon completion of this course that he was given the commission of Engineer Officer, U. S. Navy. He served in this capacity through 1918. In 1919 he accepted the position of Chief Engineer and General Superintendent of Jahncke Dry Docks, Inc., New Orleans, La. In 1933 Mr. Benson became General Superintendent of the Marine Department of Jahncke Service. Inc.

It was during the time that Mr. Benson was connected with Jahncke Service, Inc. that this firm was awarded the contract for the building of the North levee for the Bonnet Carre Spillway which is located thirty miles above New Orleans and which serves as a protection for the city. The total cost of building the North and South levees was approximately \$13,000,000.

The officials of Jahncke Service, Inc. and Mr. Benson, their Chief Engineer, conceived the idea of trying something new in the field of levee construction. The proposed levee was to be built through a densely wooded (Continued on Page 19) H. Y. Hall

H ARRY Y. HALL, class of 1900, has been identified with the Hell Gate Power Station, of The New York Edison Company, Inc., since the installation of apparatus in April 1921. As Superintendent, he has directed the operation and maintenance of this mammoth plant, and in addition, construction and installation for later additions. Also, he has tied in very closely with its development and design.

Although this station was originally planned for a total capacity of 300,000 kw., the actual installed capacity is now 605,000 kw. This was, until exceeded by a sister plant (Hudson Avenue Station), the largest aggregation of power generating equipment in the world. This plant is assessed at nearly \$55,000,000 by the City of New York for taxation purposes, which probably makes it the highest assessed single piece of property in the world.

Hell Gate Station has been noted for its many engineering innovations. From the start, it has used isolated phases in its electrical galleries and hydraulic sluicing of ash and slag. It was the first to use water cooled furnace walls, consisting of finned water tubes; the first to install and operate turbo-alternator units of 160,000 kw. capacity; and the first station to install and operate boilers fired by powdered coal unit mills, capable of (Continued on Page 19)



H. Y. HALL

E. W. Dillard



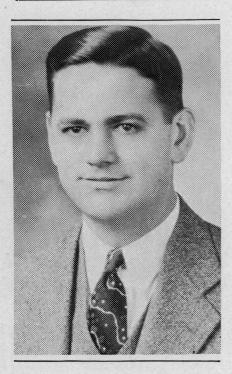
FTER leaving Auburn in 1912 A Mr. Dillard went with the General Electric Company in Lynn, Mass., taking the test course there that is usually given college graduates. The following year he left the General Electric Company to take a position with the Anniston Gas and Electric Company which was a part of the newly formed Alabama Power Company. When the Alabama Power Company extended its lines into Anniston in 1914, Mr. Dillard went on construction work at the Anniston substation. When this work was completed he was transferred to the Birmingham engineering office where he kept operating records, did drafting, and later took part in further construction work. -

In 1915 H. H. Dewey, of the General Electric Company, who was considered an expert in the operation and design of high tension power systems, was retained by the Alabama Power Company for several months to establish a proper operating set-up, both of personnel and of protective equipment. Mr. Dillard was selected to assist Mr. Dewey with this work and to carry on some of his plans when he returned to Schenectady.

During the Spring of 1916 the New England Power Company required a man for similar work, and, as a result of Mr. Dewey's recommendation, he came to Worcester that summer.

(Continued on Page 18)

C. H. Turk



H. TURK, of Greensboro, entered Auburn in 1918. He enrolled in the freshman class and indicated his intention of becoming a mechanical engineer. He immediately became active in the various campus activities. Being naturally endowed with a winning personality, he was not long in surrounding himself with a host of friends.

Mr. Turk is the type who makes up his mind that he wants something, and then goes after it with a determination which is uncompromising. This is evidenced by the fact that he "scrubbed" on the foot ball field four years before he was finally rewarded for his efforts. At the end of his fourth year as a "scrub", he was awarded the coveted "A".

Mr. Turk was a member of Square and Compass fraternity, Spades, which is an honorary fraternity, and the "A" Club. During his senior year he was easily one of the outstanding men on the campus. He was President of the Student Council, President of the Y. M. C. A. and, upon graduation in 1925, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Reserve Officers' Training Corp.

Mr. Turk entered the business world with a capacity for work, enthusiasm, an appreciation of the value of loyalty and with a personality which stamps him as a leader.

On July 1, 1925, Mr. Turk entered the General Training Course of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company at Atlanta, Ga. After completing this course, he was assigned to the Traffic Department and given several months of further training in work pertaining to Traffic work. This training was completed in April, 1926 and Mr. Turk was transferred to Louisville, Ky. as Traffic Manager. He served in this capacity until March, 1929, at which time he was transferred to New Orleans, La. as Traffic Manager—the position which he holds at present.

Mr. Turk married Miss Margaret Lee Butler of Paint Rock, Ala. on June 1, 1926. Mr. and Mrs. Turk are the proud parents of two children, Joe H. and Nancy Jane Turk, ages 4 and 1 respectively.

Mr. Turk is a Mason, a member of the Board of Stewards of the First Methodist Church, Chairman of the House Committee for the same church and is President of the New Orleans Chapter of the Auburn Alumni Association.

If every Chapter of the Auburn Alumni Association could have as their leader, a man who has the personality and who would work as hard and be as loyal as is Mr. Turk to the local Chapter, the Auburn Alumni Association, as a whole, would be as strong as any organization in the whole country. Of course, we have no desire to control politics except as pertains to education and the interest of Auburn. By taking advantage of our greatest asset, the organized interest of our Alumni, we can place ourselves in a favorable position in the eyes of the politicians.

Mr. Turk was instrumental in, and was largely responsible for the organization of the New Orleans Chapter. He has worked tirelessly in the interest of the local association and of Auburn. When there is work to be done, he can always find time to do his share of it. He is as enthusiastic now as he was three years ago when he helped to organize the local Chapter. We cannot award him an "A" at the end of his fourth year, but he will have the satisfaction of knowing that he has been instrumental in building a strong Auburn organization in New Orleans and that he has the confidence and respect of the mem-

-:- 1930 -:-

Roberts H. Brown, 1930 Auburn graduate, has opened a law office in the City of Auburn. After receiving his degree at Auburn, he attended the law schools of Mercer University and the University of Georgia, graduating from the latter in December.

J. K. Hodnette

SINCE joining Westinghouse in 1923, J. K. Hodnette has held a number of positions; all of which have been related to research and development work of various kinds. His first assignment was as a laboratory engineer where he was engaged for about two years in conducting high voltage tests on various forms of insulation applicable to high voltage apparatus and equipment. He then attended the company's engineering school.

After this period of training he was assigned to the transformer division at Sharon, Pa. Here he spent several years in research and development work on transformer insulation. Most of this work was of a fundamental nature and proved to be interesting and valuable.

When the cathode ray oscillograph was perfected his attention was turned toward the improvement of lightning protection of transformers. This work included a study of the effect of surges on transformer windings; fundamental studies of the impulse characteristics of insulation; development of surge generators to reproduce the characteristics of lightning in the laboratory; the development of impulse testing technique; the improvement in protective devices and related fields.

The transformer developed as a result of this work makes use of a new



J. K. HODNETTE

principle in lightning protection—three point protection. In addition, a new protective device, Deion gaps, was developed. A great many of these transformers are in service in Alabama.

A great many engineers have maintained that it was impossible to protect a transformer against a direct stroke of lightning. Mr. Hodnette says that he has believed it possible and that this transformer is his answer to the problem. Some of them have actually been hit by a direct stroke and withstood it without even an interruption in service. Mr. Hodnette feels that the goal has been approached if not attained entirely. He leaves the proof of the worth of the invention to Alabama lightning.

Mr. Hodnette made the principal address to the Alabama Section A. I. E. E. held in Birmingham in March of this year at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the alternating current introduced by George Westinghouse.

A. W. Merkel

W. MERKEL graduated at Au-A. burn in 1904 and was immediately employed by the Continental Gin Company, serving for a time in their training school which consisted of erecting cotton gin machinery in the field. He was then shifted to various positions, and in 1908 was made foreman of the assembly plant in a Continental Gin factory. He remained in this position until 1914 when he was made assistant to the general superintendent. In 1917 he entered the second training camp of the U.S. Army and went to the coast artillery training school at Fort Monroe, Va. Here he attained the rank of captain.

In August 1918 Mr. Merkel went to France with the anti-aircraft sector, A. E. F., and commanded the 31st Anti-Aircraft in the Coast Artillery Corps. He returned to the States in January 1919 and was immediately made superintendent of the Atlanta plant of the Continental Gin Company. He remained in this position until 1924 when he was transferred to Birmingham and made superintendent of a new plant.

He held this position until 1930 when he was made general superintendent, and in 1935 he was made vice-president in charge of manufacturing and designing.

The plant at Birmingham is a mod-(Continued on Page 18)

Auburn's Aeronautical Course

UBURN's newest addition to its A already important engineering curriculum is the Aeronautical Course established in the fall of 1930 by Lt. Volney C. Finch, U. S. Navy (retired), a former Naval aviator and aeronautical engineer. At that time some eighteen students were enrolled. Since then the growth has been fairly rapid. until at this time students in aeronautical subjects number approximately 113. This places the department, in number of students, third in seven engineering departments and sixth in twenty-two departments in the College. The above figures being approximate only.

The first year, graduates were awarded a B. S. in Mechanical Engineering with an Aeronautical Option. In 1932, however, the award was changed to a B. S. in Aeronautical Engineering, for completion of four years' work. Beginning with the 1936-37 school year, the Aeronautical Option for four years will be offered and, in addition, a fifth year of advanced aeronautical course leading to a degree of Bachelor of Aeronautical Engineering. Enrollment in this fifth year will be restricted to students showing marked ability.

The courses originally offered were two: first a Ground Instruction course including, air commerce regulations, airplanes, airplane engines, aerial navigation, meteorology, aircraft instruments, and parachutes. The second course, Airplane Design, included problems in the design and stress analysis of a complete airplane.

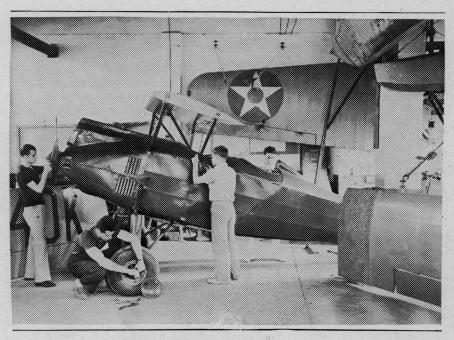
The strictly aeronautical equipment comprises a number of Army and Navy engines, including a Curtiss D-12, Wright Whirlwind, Packard, and Hispano-Suiza. There are three service airplanes used only for rigging practice and familiarization. These are a Navy Vought and Boeing, and an Army Douglas. In addition to these planes there is a miscellaneous collection of instruments and accessories.

For other practical laboratory work, the college buys a damaged airplane as needed, the seniors overhaul the engine, and the sophomores overhaul the plane. Recently an overhaul was completed on a Great Lakes trainer which had been badly crashed, necessitating complete rebuilding of three wing panels, numerous welding repairs to fuselage, etc. When completed, these planes are licensed by the Department of Commerce, sold, and another damaged plane bought.

For the past three years, all seniors have been taken to the Naval Air Station at Pensacola for a week's inspection trip. Lectures, tours through the various shops, observation of operations, etc. are all mapped out in advance.

No flight training is offered in correlation with the course, although such training is available here at times, and an intense interest is shown by

(Continued on Page 18)



AIRPLANE LABORATORY

Move Launched to Endow Auburn

A group of 16 leading alumni are being asked to serve on a Governing Board for the purpose of administering Auburn's Alumni Endowment Fund. They are Dr. L. N. Duncan; President Bloch; Walter Henley and Thomas Bragg, Birmingham; Frank P. Samford, Birmingham; Warren Andrews, Montgomery; John Denson, Opelika; S. L. Toomer and O. C. Prather, Auburn; Walker Reynolds, Anniston; Garrett Van Antwerp and Horace Turner, Mobile; Schuyler Richardson, Huntsville; John Flowers, Dothan; John Illges, Columbus, Ga., and M. S. Sloan, New York City.

The move to endow Auburn was officially launched at the meeting of the Alumni Association in May last. The resolution (printed below) which authorized the beginning of an endowment provided that suitable steps be taken to put the plan into effect. The naming of the Governing Board to handle funds is the initial step. All funds are to be administered by the Board with the single limitation that it may disburse no part of the principal; expenditures being limited absolutely to income from the fund. The Board is authorized to receive cash benefits of all sorts, life insurance assignments, and other benefits such as it may approve.

It is likewise provided that all funds paid into the treasury of the Alumni Association, over and above a minimum of operating cost, will be placed to the credit of the endowment at the end of each fiscal year. In this way each Alumnus who pays his current association dues is helping to build the fund.

Auburn has no greater need at the present time than that of adequate financial support. It transcends all other needs. If Auburn is to progress in the future it must have an ever-increasing support. Furthermore, it is more and more generally realized that educational institutions should, as much as is possible, be placed beyond the immediate effects of partisan political maneuvers of whatever sort. The recognition of these facts led to the formation of the policy briefly outlined above.

Such a step is in line with the best practices of other colleges and universities in the United States. It is a well known fact that most of the outstanding institutions have been able to reach their present position through the aid of generous endowments. The 1936 listings of endowments show that Harvard has an endowment of \$128,109,121; Yale \$95,838,568; Chicago \$59,388,579; Duke \$29,560,735; and Vanderbilt \$20,000,000.

Public institutions have likewise benefitted from endowments. During the current year the University of Texas has an endowment of \$33,642,546; Cornell \$29,882,275; University of Virginia \$10,806,985; Tulane \$10,432,843; Michigan \$6,612,268; Alabama \$4,734,257, and the University of North Carolina, \$1,729,410.

It is not expected that phenomenal results will appear immediately, but it is a permanent project which will grow with the addition of every gift, however small. With the enthusiastic support of every Auburn man it can be made a benefit second to none which has ever been received by the college.

Pending the announcement of the final details of the functioning of the Governing Board, which will be announced as rapidly as developments permit, additional information may be obtained from Dr. Duncan, President Bloch, or the Alumni Office at Auburn.

Endowment Fund Resolution

WHEREAS, our Alma Mater, the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, has practically no endowment; and

WHEREAS, adequate endowment is vital to a state institution as is now vividly revealed:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alumni Association of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute in annual session at Auburn this the 25th day of May 1936, that the president of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, with the cooperation of the president of the Auburn Alumni Association, is requested to make provision for starting an Alumni Endowment Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that alumni and friends of this institution are now and hereafter invited to make donations to this endowment fund, doing so by gifts, bequests, life insurance, or by any other means acceptable to the president of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Unless especially requested otherwise by the donor, all donations should be ac-

knowledged in the Auburn Alumnus. Rules and regulations governing this Endowment Fund should provide that all the endowment be wisely and safely invested with no obligations against same, and that expenditures be restricted explicitly to income from the endowment. Said income should be spent for institutional purposes. It should not be a scholarship fund.

It is not expected that a campaign be waged for endowment funds but that the plan be promulgated continuously in order to keep it before prospective donors.

All other Alumni funds, over and above the operating expenses of the Association, shall be placed, at the end of each fiscal year, into this fund. Operating expenses of the Association shall include publication of the magazine, the necessary clerical work, supplies for such work, and such other expense as shall be approved by the executive committee.

Judge F. C. Dillard '75

One of Auburn's oldest and most distinguished graduates—Judge F. C. Dillard, of Sherman, Texas—was a visitor in Auburn on April 26. Judge Dillard, who is 81 years of age, graduated at Auburn in 1875, three years after its establishment as a Land-Grant College.

The mounting years have not caused Judge Dillard to abandon his profession of law; he goes to the office daily, he says. He and Mrs. Dillard were on motor trip to Alabama and other States.

The Judge brought news of another senior alumnus of Auburn, Dr. E. W. Solomon, of Trinidad, Texas. Dr. Solomon is now an active Methodist minister at the age of 85. A check of alumni records reveals the fact that Dr. Solomon is Auburn's oldest living graduate, receiving his degree in 1872 with the Alabama Polytechnic Institute's first graduating class.

Dr. Solomon attended the Alumni Day activities at Auburn four years ago.

-:- 1925 -:-

Since graduation R. C. Gordon, Jr., has received the degree D.D.S. from Loyola University. He is practicing dentistry in New Orleans. Address: 811 Anderton Building.

William Spratling, Auburn Alumnus, Revives Native Crafts in Mexico

By Ernie Pyle Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

(This interesting story about one of Auburn's most unique and talented former students is reprinted through courtesy of the Scripps-Howard papers.)

TAXCO, Mexico, May 1.—The first American to come to Taxco was William Spratling, an Alabamian with sensitive tastes. He is still here.

He bought a house in Taxco eight years ago. He was here two years before there was anybody to talk English to. He'll probably live here a long time, because he likes it.

Spratling is only one of about 15,000 Americans in Mexico. But he's about the best known of the

15,000.

achieve of fame ing har these pack has o me America ing to a

William Spratling

15,000. He has achieved a sort of fame by reviving handicraft in these parts.

When you hear, back home, that some expatriate American is trying to restore the lost artistry of the Aztecs, you picture a man with long hair

and a great glassy zeal in his eyes, doing a "work" for God or posterity or something. I am happy to report that no such fire burns in the head of el Senor Spratling.

The truth is he hired six Indians and set them to hammering out silver ornaments for the good old American reason that he had to make a living. And pretty quick, too. For he had just \$40 left when this idea hit him two and a half years ago.

It turned out to be quite an idea. It has now flourshed into a business, and it is practically overwhelming him. He employs 78 Indians, and makes a lot of money, and doesn't have time to do the things he really wants to do.

He really wants to write. He's a good writer, too. He published a beautifully sensitive book on Mexico about five years ago. Illustrated it himself.

And that's another thing. Spratling is an artist. It seems to me he

is a great artist, but of course I only know what I like. He does not draw any more, either.

And that isn't all he can do. He's an architect. Studied it in school and taught it in New Orleans for many years. "But," he says, "I escaped from that."

So that leaves him an unusual mixture of literati and common everyday working man. He's a nice fellow, too.

It's queer about this native handicraft business. Spratling copies a design from an Aztec relic, and shows the Indians how to make it. They're just copyists. They don't have any ideas themselves. Nothing has been handed down in the way of design tradition. If he turned them loose, they'd copy something out of a magazine.

Spratling would like to do some modernistic designing of his own in silver, but he knows that for psychological reasons he must keep it native. His boys make silver pendants, bracelets, pins and so on. They also pound out tin candlesticks, picture frames and ash trays. It takes one of them all day to make a little ash tray.

They weave serapes (blankets) in his shop, too. There's a story about the weavers that I like.

When Spratling opened his silver shop, he had a vague idea of some day putting in some serape weavers. There were Indians way back in the mountains who wove at home, and brought their serapes down to market about every three months.

Spratling spoke to some of them. He said: "If I should start weaving here, would you want to come down and work for me? I'm not offering you anything, for I don't know yet. But I just wondered if it would interest you?"

And they said, "No, senor, we've got our crops to tend to. We've got our homes and our milpas in the mountains. No, senor, thank you, but we wouldn't be interested."

Ten days later, at 11 o'clock at night in a pouring rain, there was a knock on Spratling's door. When he went out, there were three whole families of Indians—men, women, children, dogs—with six burros, loaded to the hilt with knocked-down looms and everything, ready to go to work. They'd just changed their minds. What do you suppose Mr. Spratling did? Why, he started weaving serapes.

These people are still working for him. They go home for a few weeks now and then to tend their crops. They make \$1.25 (Mex) a day, which is above the average, and they're happy.

Spratling is somewhere near 40. He is medium-sized and thin. His black hair is graying a little, he has a small mustache, and an exceptionally long chin. He wears no coat or tie. Of course he speaks Spanish like a native.

He drifted into Mexico via two or three Summer vacations, and then just didn't go back. He monkeyed around all over Mexico, and wrote his book, and then did an unbroken threeand-a-half-year stretch of simply sitting around here in Taxco, doing nothing. He didn't get tired sitting, but he got hungry. So he started his shop.

He has to work very hard part of the time. But he has a lot of loafing time too. He likes the Mexicans, and the town, and the life. But he doesn't go clear overboard, the way expatriates do in novels. He knows it isn't perfect here, by a long shot. But he likes it. He goes to New York once in a while, but is glad to get back.

He has a beautiful little stone house, perched under tropical trees on the mountain side. He has servants, and his house is full of fine native pictures and mats and pottery, and books, and places to lie down for a snooze, and four dogs and a parrot.

He is a friend of Rivers and Orozco and Govarrubias, the Mexican artists, and of the big government people in Mexico City, and of Stuart Chase and other literary Americans.

JOHN J. KEYES HONORED BY WESTINGHOUSE CO.

John J. Keyes, material and process engineer, with Westinghouse, has been given one of the Company's Merit Awards for 1935. Mr. Keyes' award was made for improvement in the design of wire insulations, both cotton and paper, and the development of the mechanical equipments for the successful and economic application of these insulation improvements.

The Westinghouse Order of Merit was established for recognizing distinguished service, brilliance of performance, or conspicuous foresight in any field of the company's operations. Eleven awards were made in 1935.

Why * When * What HOBBIES

By M. T. Fullan, Head Professor, Machine Design Department

A HOBBY or an avocation is defined as the pursuit of an agreeable-substitute occupation as contradistinguished from a vocation, business, or profession.

There are few persons engaged in business or in the professions who do not pursue some form of avocation in which they find enjoyment and recreation. The hobby may be one of the following types, according to the temperament of the person: (1) Sports-tennis, golf, fishing, hunting, sailing. (2) Games—cards, chess, billiards. (3) Programs—motion pictures, radio. (4) Collections-stamps, coins, clocks, weapons, antiques, books, manuscripts. (5) Construction-mechanical models, scientific instruments, art metal, furniture. (6) Science—photography, microscopy, chemistry. (7) Art-music, painting, literature, poetry.

The seven groups given above, while they are by no means complete, are intended merely to show the manner in which individuals select hobbies that they best enjoy. The outdoor games of tennis, golf, fishing and hunting are pursued by a large number of professional and business men who become quite proficient in these lines. The indoor games of cards, chess and billiards are enjoyed by business men, many of whom become experts. We must not ignore the fact that the attendance of motion pictures and the following of radio programs constitute occupations that are enjoyable and can, therefore, be considered hobbies.

The collector of certain articles to form a collection, such as stamps, coins, clocks, old weapons, silver, glass, paintings and tapestries, is pursuing a hobby that is quite a common one.

A hobby that is gaining interest is that of mechanical construction that involves the use of tools. Carlyle defines man as a tool-using animal, and it is just a natural tendency to reach out towards avocations in which tools are employed.

Amateur photography, the use of the camera, appeals to a great many persons who enjoy trips in the great outdoors, together with the fact that by doing their own developing and printing of the pictures, acquire an interest in the science of chemistry, which may develop further. The microscope opens up the minute world and its use gives great interest to its votaries.

We are familiar with the hobbyist who likes music and learns to perform on some instrument; also the one who likes to paint pictures, and the one who enjoys making limericks, writing poetry and short stories.

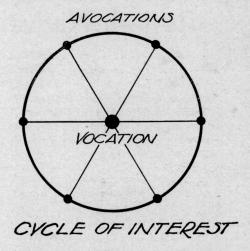
While hobbies give enjoyment to the persons who pursue them, they mean much more to one's mental health than what appears on the surface. The real value of a hobby is the change of line of thought of the individual. It switches the blood to another set of brain cells and thereby rests those cells involved in the pursuit of one's business or profession, precluding, possibly, what is termed a nervous breakdown.

Again, it is not well, therefore, to carry on a hobby until its pursuit becomes tiresome, as though it were work. At this point, the hobby has lost its usefulness and it is well for one to change to another hobby. One should not confine himself to just one hobby, but should endeavor to have several, by developing interest in others so that he may readily switch to some other one when fatigue becomes manifest.

The analogy of having several hobbies, is that of a child who has a hobby horse which he rides with great glee and fully enjoys it. After a while, he becomes tired of it and leaves it for some other toy. However, should he have several hobbyhorses, each a different form and color, he would ride one until he became tired of it, and then looking towards another, he would mount and ride it with as much joy as with the former one.

Whenever a hobby becomes work, that is, the pursuit of it does not afford keen enjoyment, it is time that it be abandoned, for the time being, and some other occupation found to serve in its place. It might be said that one who has several hobbies should be a happy man, for he may

have some one of them always before him, something to do that he fully enjoys.



The cycle of interest we represent by means of a circle the center of which is represented as one's vocation of business. In a planetary manner, the hobbies or avocations are as satellites disposed around the circumference of the circle. The radial lines extending from the hobbies to the center are to represent diagrammatically the strengthening effect of one's business ability by means of the hobbies; that is, as before mentioned, the resting of the business brain cells, and sending blood to the new zones, permits renewed interest in business. This is somewhat like resting the body

While the true purpose of a hobby is the rest given the professional brain cells, the pursuit of some hobby often leads to a new line of business that may be more interesting and at the same time more remunerative.

We know of many who have changed their line of occupation under the influence of a hobby. We shall recount a few of these cases: O. L. Petitdidier, who was occupied as a civil engineer, a builder of steel bridges, pursued optical work, as a hobby, in the producing of lenses at which he became quite expert. During his spare time, as he informed us, he equipped a small home shop and did quite a varied line of optical work. The physics department of the University of Chicago learned of his work, and needed some special optical prisms very sorely to carry on some experiments in light. Mr. Petitdidier agreed to attempt to supply the need. He did the work so well that he was persuaded to give up his first profession and specialize in optical work. This he did and achieved marked success, becoming one of the world's great opticians. There are a

(Continued on Page 18)

Auburn Has More than Economized

By L. N. Duncan, President Alabama Polytechnic Institute

There is abroad in the land much mis-information, propaganda and confusion about education and its costs. There are charges to the effect that education leaders are extravagant and that they should economize. In this connection there are some facts with reference to our finances which you should know.

In 1932, in the spirit of economy and genuine patriotism the Alabama Polytechnic Institute proposed to take a reduction of 30 per cent in all phases of its State support. This meant that we voluntarily turned back to the State annually \$236,506.73, effective October 1, 1932. Immediately following the enactment of the appropriation measure we promptly revised our budget by reducing salaries and other expenses to come within the appropriation acts.

The following figures give the true story with reference to Auburn's finances under the operation of the State Budget Law.

For the fiscal year 1932-33 we received only 48.9 per cent of the reduced appropriation and were able to pay only 45 per cent of the reduced salaries of the faculty.

For the fiscal year 1933-34 we received only 59.9 per cent of the reduced appropriation and were able to pay only 66% per cent of the reduced salaries of the faculty.

For the fiscal year 1934-35 we received only 59.9 per cent of our State support and were able to pay only 85 per cent of the reduced salaries of the faculty.

For the present fiscal year of 1935-36 we are receiving at the rate of 26.4 per cent of our reduced appropriation and we are paying at the rate of only 60 per cent of the reduced salaries of our faculty.

For the period of October 1, 1932 to April 30, 1936 our faculty has earned \$515,238.80 which it did not and perhaps never will receive.

We believe with all of our souls that the real laborer is worthy of his hire. We believe that all of our public servants, including the Governor, the Judges, the Highway Engineers, the Convict Guards and all other officials whatever they may do should be paid a reasonable and fair compensation in proportion to the services rendered.

In like manner we feel just as earnestly that all of the teachers, wherever they may work, who are training and shaping and molding our future citizens should be paid a reasonable, fair and just compensation in proportion to their services.

Only those of us who are here are able to fully understand and appreciate the noble and devoted service rendered and the sacrifices made by the faculty in laboring on and rendering maximum service under these trying circumstances and conditions.

It has been my opportunity to study and observe existing conditions at colleges and universities throughout the country and I am able to tell you without hesitation and without reservation that the sacrifices made here are without parallel in America.

Doner New Math Head

Appointment of Dr. Doner as head of the Auburn mathematics department has been announced by Dr. L. N. Duncan, president. Dr. Doner has been acting head of the department since the death of Dr. B. H. Crenshaw on Nov. 25, 1935. A native of South Dakota, he has been a member of the Auburn faculty since 1927. His education was received at Beloit College, the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois where he was awarded the Ph. D. degree in 1926. In addition to his teaching at Auburn. University of Illinois, Purdue, and Huron College, Dr. Doner has done outstanding research in mathematics. In making the appointment, Dr. Duncan predicted that Dr. Doner will soon be regarded as one of the leading heads of college mathematics departments in the United States.

Financial Support for Auburn Asked In Resolution Passed by Alumni Body

F IVE HUNDRED Alumni in annual meeting here at Auburn on May 25 passed unanimous resolution urging Governor and Legislature to provide adequate funds for Alabama Polytechnic Institute this summer and to establish a trust fund for all state support of public education.

The resolution follows in full:

"WHEREAS, our Alma Mater, the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, is now receiving only 26.43 per cent of its appropriated state funds; and

"WHEREAS, a similar condition has prevailed for four years, thereby seriously handicapping the work of our Alma Mater, which, we believe, to be the greatest educational asset the State has; and

"WHEREAS, the Alabama Polytechnic Institute is being called upon to render more services and greater service to the people of Alabama with a very bright outlook for the future provided adequate funds are made available:

"THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLV-ED by the Alumni of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute that the attention of the Governor of Alabama and the members of the legislature is hereby called to this unfortunate situation and that they are earnestly requested to act immediately with a view to providing adequate funds before the opening of the next regular session of September 7-8, 1936.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and the legislature should, in our judgment, provide an adequate trust fund for all state support of public education and place all institutions of public learning on this trust fund, thereby separating education from other state functions and enabling it to function properly without unfair and unjust criticism of education, removing it largely from controversial political questions.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that President of our Alumni Association is authorized and instructed to work with the President of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute in a legislative program designed to provide adequate funds for the operation of our Alma Mater and other educational institutions and that we, as an alumni body, pledge ourselves to work with our leaders for the consummation of their progress.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of these resolutions be sent to the Governor, to all members of the legislature, and to the press."

Some Auburn History

By Chas. W. Edwards
Associate Registrar

the heart of Auburn, is the college. The college, in fact, is Auburn—the town being an aggregation of residences and business houses connected more or less with the life of the college.... There are no manufacturing interests, no saloons, no places of outside attraction,—the life is entirely collegiate."

So wrote W. D. McIver of the Montgomery Advertiser on March 2, 1902. What he said then is to a large extent true today. In the social, civic, and economic life of the community it is difficult to determine where the one begins and the other ends. Town and college are markedly interdependent. Steps taken to improve the one are calculated to improve the other. Without the college, Auburn might long ago have been relegated to the list of forgotten towns, might truly have become a "deserted village." The college has prospered in a community long known as a seat of culture and refinement, remarkably healthful, with a progressive leadership, and free of many of the disadvantages of the larger industrial and commercial cities-a town singularly suitable for the home of an educational institution. For many decades the college has been identified by the name of the town. Who does not prefer the name "Auburn" to that of Alabama Polytechnic Institute!

The interdependence of college and town is seen in the major activities of Auburn's women's clubs and the civic clubs, which are designed to further the best interests of both. The city's governing body is part college and part town. The mayor, W. D. Copeland, is a merchant; the mayor pro tem, W. D. Martin, is cashier of the Bank of Auburn. Of the councilmen, Homer Wright is a druggist and post master; Alonzo Meadows, a garage and filling station operator; Herbert Martin, a college professor of chemistry; and J. C. Grimes is head professor of animal industry. For 20 years prior to 1930 the college power house and water works furnished the town with lights and

Town government records before 1900 have been lost or destroyed.

However, a number of ordinances of the last 36 years reflect the fact that Auburn is a college town and that boys will be boys. The first ordinance on the existing books, passed January 23, 1900, by Mayor J. W. (Marse Tim) Harris, and Councilmen T. A. (Boss) Flanagan, Shell Toomer, R. W. Burton, and T. K. Whitman, made it "unlawful for any person to loiter in the public streets or in the shops or stores after nine o'clock at night." Again college boys were the target in another ordinance passed during the mayoralty of the late Julius W. Wright, which declared that it would be unlawful to play with footballs or baseballs or otherwise to engage in noisy or boisterous sports in such a manner as to obstruct the passage of persons riding, driving, or walking, or to create a nuisance." Neither of these ordinances has been repealed.

A Century of Growth

Although this close relationship exists between the city and the college, the city is a distinct entity. Its founding antedates by nearly a quarter of a century the establishment of the East Alabama Male College, predecessor of the present institution. By 1859, the town had acquired a personality and flavor all its ownmarked by culture and hospitality, an educational center, and scene of many important political discussions and debates. It fostered writers and scientists of note. Two newspapers, The Herald and The Gazette were published here. Its part in the War Between the States was conspicuous. For half a century it was visited by many people as a summer resort. Now for 100 years its people have gone about the business of making a city-organizing and maintaining a town government, building homes, churches and schools, establishing and expanding business enterprises, and keeping abreast or ahead of the times in making civic improvements. There has been drama and romance, which, if adequately pictured in history, would move the average citizen far more deeply than accounts of state, national, and world affairs. The City of Auburn, and not the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, is this year celebrating its hundredth anniversary.

Town History and Government

The town was founded in 1836 by Judge John J. Harper, following the removal of the Creek Indians to the West. It was named Auburn for Goldsmith's "loveliest village of the plains," at the suggestion of Lizzie Taylor, sweetheart and later the wife of Thomas Harper, the Judge's son. Miss Taylor had been reading Goldsmith at a boarding school. "People hearing of the new and wonderful city that was to be, and that it was proposed to be an educational center," writes the late Mrs. W. B. Frazer, historian of ante-bellum Auburn, "came in from several states, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and others."

Simeon Perry, surveyor, was employed to lay out the town, and had his plan been followed "the town would have been in better shape with more streets." The community grew rapidly and was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly approved February 2, 1839. The first election was conducted by Judge Harper, Obadiah Echols, and Williamson W. Freeman. There is no record of the results of that election.

Very little information is available as to the town officials and their activities for the first fifty years. Perhaps the most important work of this early period was the town council's relationship to education. It appointed the school board and levied taxes for the support of the Female Institute where both boys and girls were taught.

The offices of mayor and councilmen were largely perfunctory. As Prof. A. St. C. Dunstan expresses it, "The office of mayor was a sinecure. He got no salary and was worth every bit of it!" The only mayor before 1860 of whom we find record was J. M. Simms. He and Sheldon Toomer were first state representatives from Lee County after its formation from Macon County in 1866. Toomer's son, Shell, is now representative from Lee County. William C. Dowdell, father of Mrs. B. B. Ross, J. W. Lampkin, Thomas E. Wimberly, J. W. Harris, and Chas. E. Little held the office prior to 1900.

Thomas E. Wimberly, according to Professor Dunstan, was a progressive mayor. In the early nineties, he put in Auburn's first street lights—kerosene lamps on high posts. Professor Dunstan recalls how the college boys, whose pranks inspired the installation of the system, would put gun powder at the base, attach a fuse and light

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Dr. Thomas B. Sellers



A 1909 ALUMNUS of Auburn, an active member of the New Orleans Alumni Club, and an outstanding man in the field of medicine is Dr. Thomas Benton Sellers. He entered Auburn in 1906 and finished in the pharmacy course in 1909.

Immediately upon graduating from Auburn he entered Tulane Medical School. He graduated from Tulane with high honors in 1913. In recognition of his outstanding scholastic record, he was voted membership in the A. O. A. fraternity, which is an honorary medical fraternity with membership based on high scholastic records.

From July 1913 to July 1914 Dr. Sellers was an intern at Tour Infirmary in New Orleans. From July 1914 to July 1915 he was house surgeon at the Presbyterian Hospital in New Orleans and was afterward instructor in gross and microscopic anatomy at Tulane University for six years. Beginning in 1916, he was visiting gynecologist at Charity Hospital for 14 years.

During the first two years after organization of the Southern Baptist Hospital, Dr. Sellers was chairman of the executive staff of that institution. He is senior gynecologist, Southern Baptist Hospital of New Orleans, consulting gynecologist, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital of New Orleans, and assistant professor of gynecology, Graduate School of Medicine, Tulane University.

Dr. Sellers is prominently identified with progress in the medical profession. He holds membership in 12

medical organizations of national and local importance and has contributed a number of articles to professional medical journals. He is also active in the civic and religious organizations of his city.

Dr. Sellers was born at Ramer, Ala. in 1889, and married Miss Kate Terry of New Orleans in 1915. They have two children: Katherine, age 18, a sophomore at Sophie Newcomb College; and Thomas Benton, Jr., age 14, a freshman at New Orleans Academy.

In Memoriam

DR. W. S. RUTLEDGE

By Mrs. B. B. Ross

Dr. William S. Rutledge, 54, died in December 1935 from injuries received in an automobile accident.

In 1900 Dr. Rutledge graduated at Auburn in pharmacy and located at Ruston, La., as a practicing pharmacist. Later he studied medicine at the University of Alabama and returned to Ruston where he practiced medicine until the disturbance on the Mexican border. At this time he joined the Army Medical Corps. He later served in the World War, retiring with the

rank of major. Dr. Rutledge was a charter member and commander of the MacFarlane Post of the American Legion and held membership in a number of medical societies of state and national scope.

Dr. Rutledge knew and served more people than any other man in Lincoln Parish, so his friends declared, and was known as the beloved physician rendering expert service regardless of position or means. As an active Kiwanian, he was greatly interested in underprivileged children.

He was a lover of sports, having played football both at Auburn and at Tuscaloosa and at all times promoted American Legion base ball.

Dr. Rutledge spent his boyhood and early manhood in Auburn; and as I—a long-time friend and close neighbor—think of him, there arises before me as in a vision, a handsome, energetic, large-hearted young man standing ever ready to do a courtesy or a kindness. The hospitality and charm enjoyed by friends in his parents' home was continued in his own home. He married Miss Esme O'Brannon of Ruston.

Dr. Rutledge was closely affiliated and often held official position in the Methodist Sunday School and Church in Auburn and in Ruston. In every department of life he could be depended on to measure up to his best.

GRADUATES OF 1911 AT CLASS REUNION



A reunion of the Class of 1911 was held on Alumni Day, May 25, during the 64th commencement exercises. Those who attended are pictured above: front row, left to right, E. F. Pearce, Atlanta, Ga.; J. S. Jervis, Luther Fuller, Birmingham; W. D. Hall, East Point, Ga.; R. A. Stratford, Madison, Fla.; R. B. Wright, Moultrie, Ga.; second row, H. B. Tisdale, Auburn; J. Y. Andrews, Opelika; O. P. South, Greenville; R. G. Arnold, Auburn; M. A. Askew, Louisville, Ky., and R. K. Greene, Greensboro, permanent vice president of the class.

The Glenn Family Has Played Vital Part in the Development of Auburn

NINETY years ago the Rev. John B. Glenn moved from his home at Glennville in Russell County, Alabama, to the town of Auburn, then a village 10 years old. This gentleman brought his family with him to make Auburn their home. He was a planter as well as a minister.

Mr. Glenn also was keenly interested in education as revealed by the fact that in 1857 when the East Alabama Male College was located at Auburn he was the first president of the board of trustees. He served in this capacity until his death; and, as president of the board, he signed all checks

In 1830 a son, Edward T. Glenn, was born to him. When the East Alabama Male College became a state institution—later the Alabama Polytechnic Institute—this son was made treasurer, a position which he held until his death in 1906, when he was succeeded by his daughter, Miss Allie Glenn, who has served continuously in this capacity from the day of her first appointment until the present.

A Glenn, therefore, has been treasurer of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute since it became a state institution. No other name has had this solemn responsibility and high honor. Even before it was a state institution a Glenn was treasurer.

The Glenn plantation and the old home in which Miss Allie and her brothers and sisters were born and reared is located two miles west of Auburn. It is one of the landmarks of east Alabama, still owned by the Glenn family.

One other sister now lives in Auburn. She is Mrs. Harry Smith. Her husband was a distinguished alumnus of Auburn in civil engineering. Mrs. Bolling Hall Crenshaw, nee Miss Willie Glenn, wife of the late Dr. B. H. Crenshaw, died only a few months ago. Dr. Chas. B. Glenn—Miss Allie's brother—is superintendent of the City schools of Birmingham and widely known as an able educator.

Among the old records kept by Miss Allie is one showing that in 1868 the president of the East Alabama Male College received a salary of \$1550 per year and professors were paid \$1250 per year.

Many who were prominent as Methodist ministers and in Methodism as laymen served that old institution as members of the board of trustees which, at one time, contained a roster of 46. Many men who in later years and at present have attained to fame in one capacity or another in Alabama descended from members of that board.

Glancing at one page of this book, Miss Allie pointed out the Rev. O. R. Blue, greatgrandfather of Dr. John Blue and Dr. George Blue, well-known surgeons at Montgomery. Dr. George Blue is a member of the board of trustees of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Another was Mr. Dan Pratt whose name is synonomous with progressive agriculture and industry in Alabama because of his patents of cotton ginning machinery which he manufactured. These are but examples of others.

It was in 1846 when the Rev. John B. Glenn came to Auburn. "Believe it or not" he brought with him a clock which Miss Allie is now using in her office. It has never had anything done to it except to oil it occasionally. It must be well over one hundred years old, yet it is keeping time correctly.

Naturally, the Glenns have pride in the fact that they have been con-

Knoxville Alumni Form Chapter of 42 Members

By James A. Parrish, Jr., '35

RGANIZATION of an active Auburn alumni chapter in Knoxville was begun early this year with the convergence of two independentlyacting groups who saw the need for such an organization. Credit for the stimulus of the two different groups must go to Nelson Parrish, who was actively rounding up some of the younger alumni, and to Hugh Kinzer and Bill Ware, who were formulating plans for a group of the slightly older grads. Quite coincidentally, just as Kinzer and Ware were preparing their announcement of an initial meeting a similar announcement by Parrish was posted on all Tennessee Valley Authority bulletin boards. As a result it was possible for the two groups to get together as a unified organiza-

The first meeting of the group was held in January, the second and third in February. At the last meeting, during the Southeastern Conference Basketball Tournament, officers were elected as follows: J. D. "Fats" Law-

nected with Auburn longer than any other family. Others have been here a long time but none except the Glenns go back as far as ninety years.



MISS ALLIE GLENN—AUBURN'S BELOVED TREASURER

rence, President; Hugh R. Kinzer, Vice-president; and L. H. Davis, Secretary-Treasurer. Lawrence was All-Southern center at Auburn in 1924; Kinzer and Davis were both prominent on the campus in 1928 and 1927, respectively.

Definite objectives have not been set up as yet by the organization. General purposes are however the promotion of closer friendship among Auburn graduates in Knoxville and East Tennessee; the direction of suitable football and other athletic prospects to Auburn; and the entertainment of Auburn men, officially and unofficially, who are in Knoxville for one reason or another.

The complete membership of the body includes 42 members, ranging from the class of 1909 to 1935. Most of the group are employed by the TVA or by the Tennessee Public Service Company, with insurance, salesmanship and other fields also well represented. Mr. Lawrence is employed by the DuPont Powder Company, while Mr. Kinzer and Mr. Davis are in the Plant Construction Division of the TVA.

Other members of the group are: J. C. Barry, Tennessee Public Service Company; Bryant Smith, Sun Life Insurance Company; R. W. Matherson, Secretary-Treasurer, Tennessee Public Service Company; George Hurt, in the Central Files Unit of TVA; W. A. Chalkley, '35, an engineer at Norris Dam; T. T. Wall, in the Materials Testing Department of TVA; W. B. (Red) Jackson, '29, in Service Engineering Division of TVA; J. H. Mc-Combs, '14, with the Tennessee Public Service Company; James "Jap" Parrish, '35, in the Coordination Division of TVA; Oel Johnson, '33, employed in the Materials Testing Division of TVA; Howard McGibony, '35, and Albert Nettles, '35, in the Treasurer's Office of TVA; Howard Cottle, '34, and T. G. Burke, employed in the Chattanooga office of TVA; John C. Hooper, '34, TVA; George Alexander, New York Life Insurance Company; W. J. "Tim" Gowder, '28, Agricultural Division of TVA; R. P. "Rip" Holley, '26, TVA Highway Division; Donald Beggs, '25, Tennessee State Highway Department, at Gatlinburg; Bill Ware, '25, Electrolux; Hugh Palmer Henderson, '29, in the Accounting Division of TVA; George Parker, '28, in the Safety Section of TVA; Charles Burnette, '28, William R. Wall, '26, and Wattie Watkins, '23, are all employed at Norris Dam; Harry Fox, '28, is in the TVA Electricity Division; Buck Ellis, '28, is in the G. E. office in Chattanooga;

J. G. Gauntt, '09, is in Building Construction Division of TVA; Joe Embrey, '31, is in the Accounting Division of TVA; John Thomas, '28, is in Dams Design; M. D. Dinsmore is at Norris Dam; Hal Metcalf is in the Chattanooga office of TVA; Abe Robinson is at Etowah, Tennessee; J. T. "Red" Russell, '28, and John Horn work for the American Aluminum Company at Maryville, Tennessee, as does Philip Appleby, '32, at Alcoa; Nelson Parrish, '34, is in Agriculture Industries Division of TVA; J. J. Danaher, '35, is in Dams Division; J. G. Faulker, with the University of Tennessee Agricultural Department; Mr. Heinie, with G. E. Supply, who was formerly very active with the Atlanta Alumni Association; Mr. Stephenson and Mr. McCaskill, the latter with the TVA; and Richard Woods, in the Coordination Division of TVA.

Auburn History

(Continued from Page 12)

it at the burner, scamper away, letting time and the powder destroy the lamps!

There have been six mayors since 1900. Chas. E. Little, father of Felton Little, president of the First National Bank, was mayor from 1902 to 1906 and also for a number of years in the nineties. He was called the "perennial mayor." Julius W. Wright was mayor from 1907 to 1916, and from 1918 to 1922; Prof. G. N. Mitcham from October, 1916, to April 1, 1918; Dr. Cecil S. Yarbough, 1922 to 1926; and W. D. Copeland, 1926 to the present. Dr. Yarbough was appointed mayor in April, 1918, to fill the vacancy of Mayor Mitcham, who resigned in April, 1918, to take a position in another city. He filled the office until August when he joined the army. S. L. Toomer was named to finish the term, August 16 to September 17.

The town councilmen in 1899 were T. A. (Boss) Flanagan, treasurer; Robert Wilton Burton, clerk; T. K. Whitman, and A. L. Dillard. Chas. E. Little was mayor. Boss Flanagan came back to Auburn after the War and set himself up in business as a cobbler. His father had operated a shoemaking establishment before the War on the first floor of a two-story building which stood on the corner lot where now stands the main gate to the college campus. Flanagan's business was the predecessor of W. D. Gibson's store. He was a councilman off and on for 30 years before his death in 1909. Robert Wilton Bur-

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ton, councilman, served as city clerk from 1892 until his death in 1917. He established Burton's Bookstore in 1878, which, as Auburn's only bookstore, is now operated by his daughter, Miss Lucille Burton. For 15 years he was secretary of the college Board of Trustees and for many years he was secretary and treasurer of the city board of education.

Recent Progress

Marked progress in civic improvement has been made during the last three administrations. Under Mayor J. W. Wright, a water franchise was granted to the college on March 2, 1908. A bond issue was voted on January 12, 1909, for construction of a water works and sewerage system. The contract to furnish the water was awarded to the college and G N. Mitcham was named supervising engineer of waterworks.

Hitherto for a number of years only the college and some neighboring stores had gotten water from the college waterworks. As late as the 1890's a well in the middle of the street in front of what is now Jolly's Store was the sole source of water supply for most of the storekeepers and visiting farmers. At that time "dog fennel" weeds grew in the streets in front of the Old Episcopal Church and the Auburn "Black Guards" (negro boys) drilled on the vacant lot now occupied by Toomer's Drug Store.

On December 10, 1908, the town contracted with A. St. C. Dunstan, successor and assigns, to provide a lighting system for the town. Professor Dunstan later sold the franchise to the college for \$1 and "other valuable considerations." He doubts whether he ever received the dollar! Professor Dunstan states that he read the meters, made out the bills, and collected for a number of years. For several summers after the installation of the system the city lights were not burned on several nights each week in order to permit pumping of water to fill the tank. An ample water supply was assured upon the construction of Wilmore Lake in 1918. Slowly the college electric system was expanded and improved. After 1921 power was purchased from the Alabama Power Company. These contracts for city light and water were in force until 1929 when the systems were sold to the Power Company for \$300,000 and \$100,000 respectively. For several years following the kerosene lamp era inaugurated by Mayor Wimberley, the business section was lighted by three arc lights, Mayor

Little having let the contracts on April 28, 1904, at \$80 per light per year.

Two early utility ventures of rather ambitious proportions failed to materialize. On August 12, 1914, an ordinance was passed permitting an Opelika company to construct a gas plant for the manufacture and distribution of artificial or natural gas. However, gas was not available for general use in Auburn until 1930 when the Southern Natural Gas Company extended its lines to Auburn. On July 7, 1902, an ordinance authorized Rush Taylor and Company, of Philadelphia, to construct a street railway in the streets of Auburn for carriage of passengers and freight, the fare to be not more than five cents for one continuous ride. This was an attempt to revive the old steam "Dummy Line" which operated between Auburn and Opelika for three or four years in the 1890's. Terminals of this old line were near the present Alpha Tau Omega fraternity house in Auburn and the Baptist Church in Opelika. Remains of the old road bed may be seen at a number of points between Auburn and Opelika. Rush Taylor did not build the trolley line, nor did another company which was granted a permit a few years later.

Within the four years of the mayorality of Dr. Cecil S. Yarbough, 1922 to 1926, the town made rapid growth in population, civic improvements, and construction of new homes. There was also a marked increase in business. During his administration the town council, composed of S. L. Toomer, Homer Wright, W. D. Martin, Dr. B. B. Ross. and Prof. M. T. Fullan, authorized the paving of sidewalks and streets of the main thoroughfares. T. B. Chambers was employed as City Engineer. In July, 1926, the first unit of paving was opened. Since then in Mayor Copeland's administration other units have been added, bringing the total cost to about \$150,000. and providing paved streets and sidewalks for practically all the business and residence sections. Within four years some one hundred and fifty residences were constructed in Auburn and the number of businesses doubled. This rapid growth is largely attributable to expansion of the college made possible by increased state appropriations and the loosening up of credit afforded by the establishment of the First National Bank in 1923. The Bank of Auburn was established in 1909.

Within the last ten years, land-

marks in civic development have been the extension of the paving begun under Mayor Yarbrough, the construction of the city hall in 1931, the acquisition of two trucks, a fire engine and other fire equipment, the construction of the new post office and the new school building. Also many new homes have been built, especially in the neighborhood of the new school. This expansion has been at considerable expense, yet the city's financial position is good. Bonded indebtedness is only \$105,000, of which \$68,000 is in assessment bonds and only \$37,000 in general obligation bonds. The property tax levy is only seven mills, perhaps the lowest of any city in East Alabama. The city owns some eighteen thousand dollars worth of real estate.

The rapid civic development of the last fifteen years is of course due to a large extent to progressive mayors and councilmen. However it is also largely attributable to the activity of the several civic clubs, Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Business and Professional Women, and the Woman's Club, and to the friendly cooperation and encouragement of the college officials.

In 1846, the business section is described as having "eight large dry goods stores, a large shoe factory, a carriage factory, bakery, jewelry stores, and drug stores." There was a "Water Cure" establishment with a number of boarding patients. The railroad was built in 1847. By 1852 another factory had been added which advertised as follows: "'Rip Van Winkle Mattress Somnific Factory', north of the Baptist Church, J. B. Williams." The town's business expansion in recent years has been notable. W. D. McIver stated that in 1902 there were 25 business houses. There had been little expansion up to 1920. Within the next six years the number of businesses doubled, and in 1936 the number of licenses issued for businesses conducted in the town of Auburn exceeded one hundred.

Population statistics since 1870 are as follows: 1870, 1,018; 1880, 1,000; 1890, 1440; 1900, 1447; 1910, 1,408; 1920, 2,143; 1930, 2,800; 1936, 3,200 (estimated).

-

An Educational Center

It was the plan of the founders of Auburn that it should be an educational center, and in the town's early history the city fathers undertook to provide good facilities for the instruction of their children. The first teacher was Simeon Yancey. The

Methodists and Baptists united in 1838 in building a school house on the lot later occupied by the Glenn residence. The lot is across the street from the post office and is now occupied by the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity house. Here Yancey "built up a fine school for boys and girls, many boarding pupils coming from the adjoining counties." The next teacher was a Mr. Hallure. He was followed by C. C. Flanagan, an Irish gentleman who had been educated for the catholic priesthood, who was induced by Thomas Harper to come and build up a "male academy" and prepare boys for Emory and the University of Georgia. Thomas Slaton established an academy for boys about 1856, which was continued for a number of years.

In 1846 the Masonic Lodge established the Auburn Masonic Female Institute on the lot across from the Methodist Church. It was maintained by the Masons for ten or fifteen years under the presidencies of Drs. Harrison, Price, and Epaminondas D. Pitts. The chapel was moved to the college campus in the sixties, and was veneered with brick. This building is now Langdon Hall of the college. The maintenance of this school devolved upon the town government, and it was used henceforward for the instruction of both boys and girls. The term Female Institute persisted until after 1900. The school was placed under the direction of a school board appointed by the town council. Among the chairmen and members of the board of education have been A. J. Hollefield, chairman for many years, Chas. E. Little, member from time to time for twenty years, Robert Wilton Burton, secretary and treasurer for years, Chas. C. Thach, former president of the college, and Prof. J. F. Duggar.

Members of the board in 1895 when bonds were issued for the "purpose of building a school house or houses and repairing the same" were Chas. C. Thach, president; R. W. Burton, secretary and treasurer; C. A. Cary, J. M. Thomas, T. U. Culver, C. E. Little, and J. W. Harris. The new building was called the Auburn Female Institute and Grammar School. It was razed in 1932 to make way for the new post office building and the brick were used in the construction of the new city hall. In his dedicatory address, October 29, 1899, the late William J. Samford said, "Auburn is, and your action today emphasizes the fact that she will remain, a great educational center . . . Let me say to the young men and young women of my country that the keenest blade in the warfare of life is a splendid education."

The old Lee County High School building was constructed in 1914. From that date to 1931 the other building was used as the Auburn Grammar School. In 1931 the new school building, which houses both the grammar and high school grades, was completed. Its construction was made possible by the sale of the city water system to the Alabama Power Company, the proceeds being donated for the purpose. The cost of the building and equipment, which is the latest and most up-to-date in the state, was approximately \$135,000. Prof. J. A. Parrish is principal. He has been principal of the high school for over twenty years.

In 1931 the Auburn Grammar School became part of the county school system. A city board of education is still appointed by the city council which has advisory powers only.

East Alabama College and the Alabama Polytechnic Institute

The other phase of Auburn's development as an educational center is in the establishment of the old East Alabama College, which was opened in 1859, its transfer to the State in 1872 by the Alabama Conference, and the establishment of the Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College. The story of the battle between Greensboro and Auburn, and how both finally got a college, as told in West's History of Methodism in Alabama, is a memorable one. The name of the college was changed by act of the legislature to the Alabama Polytechnic Institute in 1899. From this small beginning it has reached an enrollment of 2350 students, has a faculty of 150 and a plant valued at over two million dollars. In addition to the general college, two other important divisions, the Alabama Experiment Station and the Alabama Extension Service, have been developed.

Post Office

The first post office was established as a fourth class office in 1837 in a small log house on the lot across from the old Presbyterian Church on the college campus. The first postmaster was William Owsley. Advancement was made to a third class office on January 1, 1891, and to a second class office on July 1, 1914. Free mail and express delivery began on November 1, 1925. On July 1, 1926,

two regular carriers and one substitute carrier were authorized.

In 1931 Congress appropriated \$90,000 for the construction of a new post office building at Auburn. The cornerstone was laid in 1932, and the building completed and occupied in 1933. The contract price was \$80,000 and the building is said to be the finest in the state for a town of Auburn's population.

The present postmaster is Homer Wright. Other postmasters since 1879 have been Alsia J. Hollefield, Leonard W. Payne, Thomas A. Read, George S. Cobb, Wm. B. Frazer, Jefferson H. Williamson, William C. Dowdell, Annie L. Dillard, Felix T. Hudson, Welborn V. Jones, and Levi A. Knapp.

Churches

The first church in Auburn was built of logs by the Methodists just south of the lot where the present church stands. The lot was donated by Judge John J. Harper. The present building was constructed as a two-story frame building in 1850. It was lowered to one story about 1890 and in 1899 was rebuilt into the present structure. The first Methodist minister was Rev. Morgan Terrentine, who had been a missionary among the Indians in this section before 1836.

The first Baptist church was also of logs, constructed in 1839 facing south on a lot near the present Pi Kappa Phi house on West Glenn Avenue. This building was used until 1848. The second building was erected in 1848 on the present lot which was donated by Mrs. Matthew Turner. It was destroyed by a storm in 1863 when being used as a hospital. The roof was blown down and rested on the pews, and the story goes, that not a soldier was injured "but all remained dry during the night of the most terrific storm we had ever experienced." The fourth church which was razed in 1928 upon construction of the present building was built upon the same foundation as the third. Mr. Alex Frazer, father-in-law of the late Mrs. W. B. Frazer, built the third church.

Prior to 1850 the Presbyterians worshipped with the Methodists and Baptists. In that year the old Presbyterian Church on the lot opposite the college administration building was constructed by Edwin Reese. Mr. Reese was uncle of the late Mrs. Frazer. That building was used until 1917 when the present structure was built by the Presbyterian Synod of Alabama.

The Episcopalians' first church was

located on a lot to the rear of the present college library. In 1886 a second church was built. The present structure, Chapel of the Holy Innocent, their third building, stands on the same lot and was constructed in 1927. Among this church's former rectors is the Right Reverend William G. McDowell, D. D., present Bishop of the Diocese of Alabama.

In Auburn today regular church services are held by Baptists, Catholics, Christians, Church of Christ, Christian Scientists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists and Presbyterians. The Christian, Christian Science and Lutheran churches were most recently organized. The present Catholic "Church of the Sacred Heart" was built in 1912.

Hobbies

(Continued from Page 10)

great many good civil engineers but few good opticians.

Sir William Herschel, the famous British astronomer, was a poor musician who followed George III to England from Germany as one of the court musicians. The record of his life shows that he suffered greatly from lack of money as his pay at court was quite inadequate for his needs. Having secured the loan of a small nautical telescope, he began to study the heavens, as a hobby. Later, he made a small astronomical telescope with his own hands. The King learned of this and, desiring him to go further, supplied from his own purse the funds necessary, by which Herschel built quite the largest astronomical telescope of his time. Through this telescope he discovered the planet Uranus which is sometimes called Herschel in his honor.

Eli Terry, the early New England clockmaker, was a house carpenter, who was interested, as a hobby, in clocks which were then made in England. He made with his own hands the first American-made clocks with wheels made of wood. It is said that he peddled his clocks through New England. Seth Thomas became apprentice at clockmaking under Terry and later, after carrying on this work, founded the industry that still bears his name.

A. W. MERKEL

(Continued from Page 7)

ern, up-to-date plant and can be used as a model for any one who cares to study the proper way of laying out a plant for the manufacture of light agricultural machinery.

AERONAUTICAL COURSE

(Continued from Page 7)

many. There is an Aero Club of some ten or twelve members organized and flying this year. The department has no official connection with this group, but Lt. Cornell is considering affiliating himself with them next year as an instructor.

The department is headed by Lt. B. M. Cornell who is a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy and who was an officer in Naval Aviation before his retirement to take over his duties at Auburn. He is assisted by R. G. Pitts who graduated at Auburn and then took an M. S. degree from California Institute of Technology.

E. W. DILLARD

(Continued from Page 5)

In addition to the automatic protection work that he had been doing in Alabama, he was also placed in charge of the maintenance of meters, oil circuit breakers, lightning arresters, telephones, etc. The New England Power Company group at this time had a capitalization of about \$40,000,000. It was basically a high tension wholesale power company, retailing practically no power.

The greatly increased demand of power immediately after the war required the company to embark upon a comparatively heavy construction schedule which necessitated certain organization changes and at this time he was made Assistant Electrical Engineer. During the next six years the company was active in the construction of several hydro-electric plants and a steam plant extension, together with the necessary transmission line and substation construction to bring the additional power to the points of utilization.

At the instigation of H. I. Harrimann in 1924, his company and General Electric embarked on a serious study of the causes and effects of lightning disturbances on high tension transmission lines; these studies have been continued ever since. Mr. Dillard represented the New England Company in these investigations, being in contact with various General Electric engineers, notable of whom were Mr. Lewis and Mr. Peek, both outstanding authorities on this subject.

In about 1926 the International Paper Company acquired a financial interest in the New England Company. This company, through another subsidiary, the Gatineau Power Company, were just beginning an extensive hydro-electric development program in Canada and the International Paper executives requested that the New England Power engineers act as consultant in this development. Mr. Dillard represented his group in electrical design for two years until the development was completed. It involved the construcion of about 400,-000 kw. of capacity in hydro-electric plants, with a sale of about 250,000 horsepower to the Hydro-Electric Commission of Ontario for transmission at 220,000 volts to Toronto 226 miles away. The remaining power was transmitted through the Gatineau Power system at 110,000 volts.

During this period the New England Company was in transition from a wholesale to a combined wholesale and retail organization when the distribution systems at Providence, Fall River, Worcester, Lowell, and Lawrence, etc., were purchased. In 1928 Mr. Dillard was made Electrical Engineer to organize a department to cover the increased scope of electrical engineering activities of the system. At this time the Fifteen Mile Falls development was started. It is to consist of two plants, each of approximately 150,000 KW capacity, transmitting power at 220,000 volts about 125 miles to the existing high tension system. The upper plant has not yet been started. The design of this system developed several new conceptions. It was the first commercial application of high speed, high voltage oil circuit breakers and it employed an entirely new relay system. The development carried with it a heavy construction schedule in increasing the capacity of the existing system and providing high capacity interconnections with the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston.

The Electrical Engineering Department at the present time consists of sixty or more men, most of whom are electrical engineers. The principal activities recently have been in the distributing companies, building up methods of system planning to promote greater efficiencies of operation. The New England Power Association today has a total gross capitalization somewhat over \$400,000,000, which is a tenfold increase over the company in 1916.

Mr. Dillard is married and has two boys, twelve and eight years old. He hopes that it will be possible for them to go to Auburn. The Dillards have lived in Wellesley Hills since 1928 when the headquarters of the Association was moved to Boston from Worcester.

R. F. A. BENSON

(Continued from Page 5)

swamp and a hydraulic dredge had never been used under such conditions. Mr. Benson designed and personally supervised the construction of a 20" hydraulic dredge which Jahncke Service, Inc. chose to call "Tchefuncta." This dredge was completed in its entirety on the Jahncke yards without outside aid in five months. The dredge was powered by an eight-cylinder, 1000 H. P. Diesel engine, directly connected to the main pump which was 20" in diameter. It was also equipped with a 350 H. P. Diesel generator set up for operating all the auxiliary units

After supervising construction of the dredge, Mr. Benson supervised the construction of the portion of the levee for which Jahncke Service, Inc. had been awarded the contract. In this connection, it was not only proven that dredging in densely wooded swamps could be done hydraulically but that such dredging could be done more economically with a hydraulic dredge than with a steam dredge. It was found that the hydraulic dredge would move about 590 cu. yards of material per barrel of fuel burned, as against 98 cu. yards for the same amount of fuel burned by a steam dredge.

A short time after the North levee for the Bonnet Carre Spillway was completed Mr. Benson accepted the position of Industrial Salesman with the New Orleans Division of the Gulf Refining Company.

In 1934 he was promoted to District Superintendent of Industrial Lubrication with the same company.

In 1935 he was elevated to the position of Assistant Division Manager, Gulf Refining Co., New Orleans, La. The states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas compose his territory.

The Gulf Refining Company realized that it was to their advantage to maintain the very best service in lubrication engineering. With this in view, they went after the best man to be had. They employed Mr. Benson, and he has justified the confidence placed in him.

The lubrication engineers employed by the Gulf Refining Company work under Mr. Benson's supervision. Incidentally, several of these men are Auburn graduates.

Mr. Benson married Miss Katherine Ann Strange of Pittsburg, Pa. in 1919. His daughter, Frances R. Benson, is fourteen years of age and is attending public school in New Orleans. She is as enthusiastic an Auburn supporter as her father.

The New Orleans Chapter of the Auburn Alumni Association is fortunate in that Mr. Benson is located in New Orleans. He is one of the charter members and has been active from the beginning. It is a pleasure to work with him and he is always ready to cooperate in any undertaking which is to the interest of Auburn.

H. Y. HALL

(Continued from Page 5)

generating over a million pounds of steam an hour each.

The plant was originally designed for 275 pounds steam pressure, with 200° F. superheat. In all the later developments and additions, this pressure has been adhered to, but the superheat has been increased to 300° F.

To obtain sufficient steam for doubling the capacity of the station, in addition to new boilers, it was necessary to revamp nine of the twenty-one stoker fired boilers, to raise the capacity of each from 150,000 to 250,000 pounds of steam an hour.

Since the growth of Hell Gate took place during a period of rapid changes in the development of power producing equipment, many baffling technical problems had to be worked out to improve operation, lower maintenance, and insure continuity of service.

The growing pains of rapid growth are frequently reflected in inherent flaws in operating characteristics of new equipment. Repeated tests, analyses, and engineering development, have been required to meet the constantly arising problems.

The personnel of this plant regularly numbers close to 800 employees, and with the addition of construction work, exceeds 1000 employees. The staff of the Superintendent includes the following:

- (1) An Assistant Superintendent.
- (2) A Chief Engineer in charge of steam operations and shops.
- (3) An Electrical Foreman in charge of electrical operations.
- (4) A Chief Clerk in charge of all clerical work and records.
- (5) An Engineer of Tests, in charge of major station tests, research, chemical laboratories, field engineering, technical supervision, and engineering recommendations.

(6) During the heavy construction period in the past, an Electrical Construction Foreman, in charge of electrical construction, and a Chief Inspector in charge of mechanical construction.

A trained group of graduate engineers and chemists at this plant, are constantly engaged in test, research, and power station betterment, and proper attention to these activities has resulted in savings and improvement in operation. It may be of interest to note that Edgar Palm, class of 1930, and Kermit C. Gilbert, class of 1931, are members of this group.

Hell Gate was one of the pioneer stations in the development (especially the refinement) and use of slag bottom furnaces for handling ash in molten form in the furnace pit.

A very interesting invention, developed jointly by the Engineer of Tests and the Superintendent, covers a spray type of Fly Ash Eliminator to remove powdered fuel fly ash from the stack gases, so as to prevent atmospheric pollution. Fly ash elimination has been a very baffling problem for many years, due to the complex nature and mixed characteristics of the fly ash material dealt with. With the equipment developed, efficiency of 97% elimination has been achieved.

Due to Hell Gate pioneering, no plant has been more frequently visited by engineers from all over the world. Practically every country, including distant China, Japan, India, Australia, and Soviet Russia has been represented.

I. F. McDONNELL

(Continued from Page 4)

department has been a very profitable investment for the public, not only in the lowering of rates, but also in the adjustment of complaints and recovery of utility customers.

Mr. McDonnell graduated in engineering with the class of 1899, after which he served as assistant to the professor of electrical engineering at Auburn. He holds a graduate degree in electrical and mechanical engineering.

Mr. McDonnell took the student's engineering test course of the General Electric Company at the Schenectady factory and afterwards served in sales work for this company and the Western Electric Company until 1910 when he entered the utility engineering field. He was engaged in the practice of engineering, specializing in utility engineering until he accepted employment with the Alabama Public Service Commission in 1921.

Mr. McDonnell's associates know him to be a thorough-going and efficient man. He has the respect and admiration of all who deal with him both in the utility field and among the public utility customers. Standing as he does between these two, he serves both justly and without partiality or prejudice. He is a man of high business standards and careful thinking.

ROGER B. McWHORTER

(Continued from Page 4)

the ownership, operation, management, and control of all facilities for the generation, transmission, distribution, and sale of electric energy; will investigate such emergency and permanent interstate connections as are authorized by the act, and the exportation of electric energy from the United States; will investigate and ascertain the actual legitimate cost of the property of every interstate public utility, and the depreciation thereon; will investigate adequacy of service rendered by public utilities operating interstate facilities; will maintain and keep current information relating to power resources and requirements, and to electric rates, in all parts of the United States; will investigate the cost of generation, transmission, and distribution of electric energy, such cost determination work being of a highly technical character; will aid in determining whether rates are fair and reasonable, and assist in fixing fair and reasonable returns; will investigate and analyze rates, charges, and contracts for the sale of electric energy and its service to residential, rural, commercial, and industrial consumers, and other purchasers; and, in general, will perform all engineering service required of the Commission by the act approved August 26, 1935, as expeditiously as practicable, with available funds.

W. P. HOLCOMBE

(Continued from Page 4)

work with the Electric Lighting Co. of Mobile, resigning this position in 1904 to join the Wesco Supply Co. of St. Louis where has placed in charge of their work at the St. Louis World Fair. After the work at the Fair, he joined the Frank Adams Electric Co. of St. Louis as engineer on design and construction work, remaining in this capacity until 1912.

From 1912 to 1917 he was transferred to Detroit, Cincinnati, Minneapolis, and Washington, but continued in the same field of work. In 1917

he joined the John H. Busby Co. in Detroit on electrical engineering and construction work. In 1920 he was invited by M. S. (Mat) Sloan to join the staff of the Brooklyn Edison Company as purchasing agent. In 1926 he was made vice-president of the company by Mr. Sloan and is at the present time vice-president and member of the Board of Directors of this Company.

In addition to his important business connections, Mr. Holcombe takes an active part in the civic and professional life of his city, being affiliated with many of its most important social, religious, and professional organizations.

Mr. Holcombe married Miss Myra Van DerSlice of St. Louis in 1914. They have three children, Virginia Taylor, Ruth D'Armand, and Myra Elizabeth. Miss Virginia Holcombe is a sophomore at Auburn in the school of agriculture. Miss Ruth Holcombe is a freshman in the school of chemistry.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

(Continued from Page 3)

nus, Miller Reese Hutchison, at that time chief engineer for the Thomas A. Edison Companies, enabled the college to erect a small broadcasting station which was of much interest and value to our students. Additional donations of equipment by the Alabama Power Company and by Mr. Victor H. Hanson and others enabled the station to be enlarged and finally developed into station WAPI now located at Birmingham and leased as a commercial station.

In 1918 the engineering departments took an active part in the technical training of enlisted men for oversea service in the World War. Special vocational courses were organized in plumbing, general mechanics, auto mechanics, machinists and others for 500 men. Then there were more than 600 students registered in special engineering courses prescribed by the government.

Service courses in general chemistry had been provided since the organization of the college by the department of chemistry. To supplement this a full four year curriculum in chemical engineering was announced in 1917, Dr. B. B. Ross being head of the department at the time. The department of highway engineering was established in 1919 with Professor C. A. Baughman of Iowa State College as its head.

In 1928 the department of Industrial Engineering and Shops was established with Prof. Dan T. Jones as head and the Textile Engineering department with Professor E. W. Camp of Texas as head.

The course in Aeronautical Engineering was organized in 1931 and the course in Aeronautical Administration two years later. Lieut. Volney C. Finch heading the work in both courses.

The Engineering Experiment Station was organized in 1929 to conduct engineering research for the benefit of the industries of the state and for the further development of its natural resources.

The period from 1921 to 1930 showed a large development in the building program of the engineering departments. In 1921 a shop building with 6000 sq. ft. of floor space was erected. In 1924 another shop building with 1,000 sq. ft. of floor space and in 1925 the electrical laboratory with a floor space of 6300 sq. ft were built. Ramsay Hall, an excellent building of brick and reinforced concrete, three stories high with a floor space exceeding 40,000 sq. ft. was made possible by a handsome contribution by Mr. Erskine Ramsay, an industrial leader of the Birmingham district. The Ross Chemistry Building was constructed in 1928-29. It was named for Dr. B. B. Ross who was dean of the school of chemistry and pharmacy at the time. It is of brick and reinforced concrete construction, has a floor space of 43,000 sq. ft. and is very completely furnished and equipped for its purpose. The new shop building with a floor space of 20,000 sq. ft. was erected in 1929, and the textile building, two stories high with a floor space of 36,000 sq. ft. was built in 1930. These buildings are all in use to full capacity and any substantial increase in registration will require increase in space and facilities.

More than 2,500 students have graduated from engineering courses. They have gone out into every state and to many foreign countries and have made good. Under normal conditions they are generally employed before they graduate but during the depression employment conditions have not been quite so favorable. However, our records show that very few engineering graduates from Auburn are now without employment.

-:- 1935 -:-

Miss Elna Miller and Dr. Eugene Callen were married at the home of Mrs. Taylor Wiggins in Opelika on Feb. 15. Dr. Callen holds a government position in Charlottesville, Va., where the couple will make their home.

Summer Session Groups



Summer Session students at Auburn from Birmingham-Southern are pictured above in the midst of a heated "argument" over the outcome of the Tiger-Panther clash in Cramton Bowl, Montgomery, on the evening of September 25, with Elmer G. Salter, '28, Auburn sports writer.



A group of present and former Alabama College students attending Auburn this summer are pictured above with Dr. John J. Wilmore, engineering school dean.

...a match can tell you a lot

CAPETIES CORRECCO

Miss Sarah Williford Ayburn, Ala. o/o Ag. Librery

Chesterfield's mildness and better taste give smokers a lot of pleasure

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